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EXAMINER

ALI, SYED J

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2127

DATE MAILED: 07/29/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/558,031

Applicant(s)

SPONHEIM ET AL.

Examiner

Syed J Ali

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 May 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-46 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-46 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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DETAILED ACTION

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on February 11, 2004 has been entered.

2. This office action is in response to the amendment filed February 11, 2004. Claims 1-46 are presented for examination.

3. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. code not included in this office action can be found in a prior office action.

Claim Objections

4. **Claims 26 and 39 are objected to because of the following informalities:**

a. In lines 1-2 of claim 26, "displayed being displayed" should read "being displayed".

b. In line 2 of claim 39, "including" should read "including the".

Appropriate correction is required.

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. **Claims 1-5, 11-15, 18-20, 24-28, 30-32, 35-38, and 45-46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bloomfield (USPN 6,370,552) in view of Bates et al. (6,374,272) (hereinafter Bates).**

6. As per claim 1, Bloomfield teaches the invention as claimed, including a system for retrieving data, comprising:

a client device programmed to create a communications channel in response to selecting an element displayed on a page and to communicate information about the element via the communications channel (col. 2 lines 25-45; col. 4 lines 49-65), the client device displaying on the page information based on response data received via the communications channel (col. 2 lines 25-45; col. 6 line 59 - col. 7 line 3; col. 7 line 53 - col. 8 line 27).

7. Bates teaches the invention as claimed, including the following limitations not shown by Bloomfield:

wherein the creation of the communications channel is event driven and responsive to at least one user-generated event (col. 6 lines 13-54).

8. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Bloomfield and Bates since event driven web browsing is prevalent within the realm of Internet programming. Web applications are frequently developed using DHTML, ASP, and Java that implement event driven features that may not necessarily involve a keystroke or mouse-click by a user. For instance, automatically refreshing a web page that is time dependent or a user playing a game on a web page in some instances requires a server response without any action on the part of the

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user. Thus, the support of an event-driven interface would have been an obvious modification to an Internet browser.

9. As per claim 2, Bloomfield teaches the invention as claimed, including the system of claim 1, wherein the client device is programmed to create a container on the page in response to the element being selected (col. 6 lines 14-34), the container being used to display the information based on response data received via the communications channel (col. 2 lines 25-45; col. 4 lines 49-65; col. 6 lines 14-34).

10. As per claim 3, Bloomfield teaches the invention as claimed, including the system of claim 1, wherein the response data received via the communications channel programs the client device dynamically to display the information on the page (col. 6 line 59 – col. 7 line 3).

11. As per claim 4, Bloomfield teaches the invention as claimed, including the system of claim 3, wherein the response data received via the communications channel dynamically programs the client device to at least one of copy and transfer at least some of the response data to a container for displaying the information based on the at least some of the response data on the page relative to the selected element (col. 7 lines 53-63).

12. As per claim 5, Bloomfield teaches the invention as claimed, including the system of claim 4, wherein the client device is programmed to create the container on the page in response to the element being selected (col. 6 lines 14-44).

13. As per claim 11, Bloomfield teaches the invention as claimed, including the system of claim 1, wherein the information about the element includes at least one of a uniform resource locator and metadata associated with the displayed page (col. 7 lines 53-63).

14. As per claim 12, Bates teaches the invention as claimed, including the system of claim 1, wherein the selected element includes at least one word (col. 6 lines 13-54).

15. As per claim 13, Bates teaches the invention as claimed, including the system of claim 1, wherein the displayed page further includes a plurality of selectable elements and the selected element includes at least one of the selectable elements (col. 6 lines 13-54).

16. As per claim 14, Bloomfield teaches the invention as claimed, including a system for retrieving data, comprising:

a first computer programmed to, in response to selecting at least one element on a page displayed at the first computer, create a communications channel at the first computer and send first data indicative of the selected element via the communications channel (col. 2 lines 25-45; col. 6 line 59 - col. 7 line 3; col. 7 line 53 - col. 8 line 27);

a second computer operative to receive the first data, the second computer being programmed to send to the communications channel response data related to the selected element (col. 6 line 59 - col. 7 line 3; col. 7 line 53 - col. 8 line 27); and

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wherein the first computer displays on the page information based on the response data (col. 6 line 59 - col. 7 line 3; col. 7 line 53 - col. 8 line 27).

17. Bates teaches the invention as claimed, including the following limitations not shown by Bloomfield:

wherein the creation of the communications channel is event driven and responsive to at least one user-generated event (col. 6 lines 13-54).

18. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Bloomfield and Bates for reasons discussed above in reference to paragraph 8.

19. As per claim 15, Bloomfield teaches the invention as claimed, including the system of claim 14, wherein the first computer is further programmed, in response to the element being selected, to create a container on the page (col. 6 lines 14-34), the container being employed to display the information based on the response data (col. 2 lines 25-45; col. 4 lines 49-65; col. 6 lines 14-34).

20. As per claim 18, Bloomfield teaches the invention as claimed, including the system of claim 14, wherein the response data contains computer-executable instructions for programming the first computer dynamically to display the information on the page based on the response data (col. 6 line 59 - col. 7 line 3; col. 7 lines 53-63).

21. As per claim 19, Bloomfield teaches the invention as claimed, including the system of claim 18, wherein the computer-executable instructions further program the first computer to at

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least one of copy and transfer at least some of the response data to a container for displaying information on the page relative to the selected element based on the at least some of the response data (col. 7 lines 53-63).

22. As per claim 20, Bloomfield teaches the invention as claimed, including the system of claim 19, wherein in response to the element being selected, the first computer is programmed to create the container on the page (col. 6 lines 14-44).

23. As per claim 24, Bloomfield teaches the invention as claimed, including the system of claim 14, wherein the first data further includes at least one of a uniform resource locator and metadata associated with the page displayed at the first computer (col. 7 lines 53-63).

24. As per claim 25, Bates teaches the invention as claimed, including the system of claim 14, wherein the selected element includes at least one word (col. 6 lines 13-54).

25. As per claim 26, Bates teaches the invention as claimed, including the system of claim 14, wherein the page being displayed at the first computer further includes a plurality of selectable elements, the selected element including at least one of the plurality of selectable elements (col. 6 lines 13-54).

26. As per claim 27, Bloomfield teaches the invention as claimed, including a computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps comprising:

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creating a channel at a first computer for communicating information in response to selecting an element on a displayed page (col. 2 lines 25-45; col. 6 line 59 - col. 7 line 3; col. 7 line 53 - col. 8 line 27);

submitting to a second computer via the channel data indicative of the selected element (col. 6 line 59 - col. 7 line 3; col. 7 line 53 - col. 8 line 27);

receiving at the first computer from the second computer data corresponding to the selected element via the channel (col. 6 line 59 - col. 7 line 3; col. 7 line 53 - col. 8 line 27); and

displaying on the displayed page information based on the received data (col. 6 line 59 - col. 7 line 3; col. 7 line 53 - col. 8 line 27).

27. Bates teaches the invention as claimed, including the following limitations not shown by Bloomfield:

wherein creating the channel is event driven and responsive to at least one user-generated event (col. 6 lines 13-54).

28. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Bloomfield and Bates for reasons discussed above in reference to paragraph 8.

29. As per claim 28, Bloomfield teaches the invention as claimed, including the computer readable medium of claim 27, having further computer-executable instructions for performing the step of creating a container on the displayed page in response to the element being selected (col. 6 lines 14-34), the information based on the received data being displayed in the container (col. 2 lines 25-45; col. 4 lines 49-65; col. 6 lines 14-34).

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30. As per claim 30, Bloomfield teaches the invention as claimed, including the computer readable medium of claim 27, wherein the received data further includes computer-executable instructions for performing the step of dynamically programming the first computer to display the information on the displayed page (col. 6 line 59 – col. 7 line 3).

31. As per claim 31, Bloomfield teaches the invention as claimed, including the computer readable medium of claim 30, wherein the received data further includes computer-executable instructions for dynamically programming the first computer to at least one of copy and transfer at least some of the received data from the channel to a container for displaying on the page information based on at least some of the received data (col. 7 lines 53-63).

32. As per claim 32, Bloomfield teaches the invention as claimed, including the computer readable medium of claim 31, having further computer-executable instructions for performing the step of creating the container on the displayed page of the first computer in response to the element being selected (col. 6 lines 14-44).

33. As per claim 35, Bloomfield teaches the invention as claimed, including the computer readable medium of claim 27, wherein the data indicative of the selected element further includes at least one of a uniform resource locator and metadata associated with the displayed page (col. 7 lines 53-63).

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34. As per claim 36, Bates teaches the invention as claimed, including the computer readable medium of claim 27, wherein the displayed page further includes a plurality of selectable elements, the selected elements including at least one of the selectable elements (col. 6 lines 13-54).

35. As per claim 37, Bloomfield teaches the invention as claimed, including a method for dynamically retrieving data, comprising the steps of:

selecting an element on a page displayed at a first computer (col. 2 lines 25-45; col. 6 line 59 - col. 7 line 3; col. 7 line 53 - col. 8 line 27);

creating at the first computer a communication channel for communicating information about the element (col. 2 lines 25-45; col. 6 line 59 - col. 7 line 3; col. 7 line 53 - col. 8 line 27);

submitting to a second computer data indicative of the selected element via the channel (col. 2 lines 25-45; col. 6 line 59 - col. 7 line 3; col. 7 line 53 - col. 8 line 27);

receiving at the first computer response data corresponding to the selected element (col. 2 lines 25-45; col. 6 line 59 - col. 7 line 3; col. 7 line 53 - col. 8 line 27); and

displaying on the page information based on the retrieved data (col. 2 lines 25-45; col. 6 line 59 - col. 7 line 3; col. 7 line 53 - col. 8 line 27).

36. Bates teaches the invention as claimed, including the following limitations not shown by Bloomfield:

wherein creating the channel is event driven and responsive to at least one user-generated event (col. 6 lines 13-54).

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37. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Bloomfield and Bates for reasons discussed above in reference to paragraph 8.

38. As per claim 38, Bloomfield teaches the invention as claimed, including the method of claim 37, further including the step of creating a container on the displayed page in response to the element being selected, the information based on the received data being displayed in the container (col. 2 lines 25-45; col. 4 lines 49-65; col. 6 lines 14-34).

39. As per claim 45, Bloomfield teaches the invention as claimed, including the method of claim 37, wherein the data indicative of the selected element further includes at least one of a uniform resource locator and metadata associated with the displayed page (col. 7 lines 53-63).

40. As per claim 46, Bates teaches the invention as claimed, including the method of claim 37, wherein the displayed page further includes a plurality of selectable elements, the selected element including at least one of the selectable elements (col. 6 lines 13-54).

41. **Claims 6 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bloomfield in view of Bates in view of Guedalia (USPN 6,356,283).**

42. As per claim 6, Guedalia teaches the invention as claimed, including the following limitations not shown by Bloomfield or Bates:

the system of claim 5, wherein the container is positioned adjacent to the selected element (col. 19 lines 17-29).

43. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Bloomfield and Bates with Guedalia since positioning the container adjacent to the selected item, as taught by Guedalia, would allow the user to easily compare the received content to the selected element that it is generated in response to. In that sense, the content is delivered in a way that intuitively allows comparison between the two elements sought to be compared. For example, if a user were to click on a particular element of a page that was unclear, being able to view the received content in context with the original content would facilitate the user's ability to understand what is being displayed.

44. As per claim 21, Guedalia teaches the invention as claimed, including the system of claim 20, wherein the container is positioned adjacent to the selected element (col. 19 lines 17-29).

45. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Bloomfield and Bates with Guedalia for reasons discussed above in reference to paragraph 43.

46. **Claims 7-9, 16-17, 22, 29, 33, and 39-43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bloomfield in view of Bates in view of Cordell (USPN 6,031,989).**

47. As per claim 7, Cordell teaches the invention as claimed, including the following limitations not shown by Bloomfield or Bates:

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the system of claim 5, wherein the information displayed in the container further includes selectable container elements (col. 14 line 51 – col. 15 line 12).

48. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Bloomfield and Bates with Cordell since Cordell provides the added benefit of being able to nest documents within containers. Specifically, if an element is selected on a page, and content is delivered pertaining to that element, it may be insufficient to fully satisfy the user's desire for more information relating to that element. By allowing the container to include selectable elements, the content can be further clarified, thus achieving a higher degree of usability.

49. As per claim 8, Bloomfield teaches the invention as claimed, including the system of claim 7, wherein in response to selecting at least one container element, the client device is further programmed to communicate via the communications channel information about the at least one container element (col. 4 lines 49-65).

50. As per claim 9, Cordell teaches the invention as claimed, including the system of claim 1, wherein the communications channel is an inline floating frame programmed to access a resource on a server (col. 7 line 22 – col. 8 line 4).

51. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Bloomfield and Bates with Cordell for reasons discussed above in reference to paragraph 48.

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52. As per claim 16, Cordell teaches the invention as claimed, including the system of claim 15, wherein the information displayed in the container further includes selectable elements (col. 14 line 51 – col. 15 line 12).

53. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Bloomfield and Bates with Cordell for reasons discussed above in reference to paragraph 48.

54. As per claim 17, Bloomfield teaches the invention as claimed, including the system of claim 16, wherein in response to selecting at least one container element, the first computer is further programmed to communicate to the second computer via the communications channel information about the at least one container element (col. 4 lines 49-65).

55. As per claim 22, Cordell teaches the invention as claimed, including the system of claim 14, wherein the communications channel includes an inline floating frame programmed to access a resource at the second computer (col. 7 line 22 – col. 8 line 4).

56. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Bloomfield and Bates with Cordell for reasons discussed above in reference to paragraph 48.

57. As per claim 29, Cordell teaches the invention as claimed, including the computer readable medium of claim 28, wherein the information displayed in the container further includes selectable container elements (col. 14 line 51 – col. 15 line 12).

58. Bloomfield teaches the invention as claimed, including the computer-readable medium having further computer-executable instructions for, in response to selecting at least one

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container element, performing the step of submitting to the second computer via the channel information about the at least one container element (col. 4 lines 49-65).

59. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Bloomfield and Bates with Cordell for reasons discussed above in reference to paragraph 48.

60. As per claim 33, Bloomfield teaches the invention as claimed, including the computer readable medium of claim 27, wherein the channel is an inline floating frame programmed to access a resource at the second computer (col. 7 line 22 – col. 8 line 4).

61. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Bloomfield and Bates with Cordell for reasons discussed above in reference to paragraph 48.

62. As per claim 39, Cordell teaches the invention as claimed, including the method of claim 38, wherein the information displayed in the container further includes selectable container elements (col. 14 line 51 – col. 15 line 12).

63. Bloomfield teaches the invention as claimed, including the method further including the step of, in response to selecting at least one container element, sending to the second computer via the channel data indicative of the at least one container element (col. 4 lines 49-65).

64. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Bloomfield and Bates with Cordell for reasons discussed above in reference to paragraph 48.

65. As per claim 40, Bloomfield teaches the invention as claimed, including the method of claim 39, wherein the received data further includes computer-executable instructions for

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performing the step of dynamically programming the first computer to display the information on the displayed page (col. 6 line 59 – col. 7 line 3).

66. As per claim 41, Bloomfield teaches the invention as claimed, including the method of claim 40, wherein the received data further includes computer-executable instructions for dynamically programming the first computer to at least one of copy and transfer at least some of the received data from the channel to a container for displaying on the page information based on at least some of the retrieved data (col. 7 lines 53-63).

67. As per claim 42, Bloomfield teaches the invention as claimed, including the method of claim 41, further including the step of creating the container on the displayed page of the first computer in response to the element being selected (col. 6 lines 14-34).

68. As per claim 43, Cordell teaches the invention as claimed, including the method of claim 37, wherein the channel is an inline floating frame programmed to access a resource at the second computer (col. 7 line 22 – col. 8 line 4).

69. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Bloomfield and Bates with Cordell for reasons discussed above in reference to paragraph 48.

70. **Claims 10, 23, 34, and 44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bloomfield in view of Bates in view of Cordell in view of Andersen (USPN 6,363,398).**

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71. As per claim 10, Andersen teaches the invention as claimed, including the following limitations not shown by Bloomfield, Bates, or Cordell:

the system of claim 9, wherein the resource on the server is an Active Server Page associated with a database (col. 3 line 50 – col. 4 line 16).

72. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Bloomfield, Bates, and Cordell with Andersen since ASP provides a technique that allows remote execution of applets as well as database retrieval while maintaining security and efficiency. By allowing remote procedure calls, download time can be saved for users with dialup connections, as well as protecting all users from security breaches by not allowing a program to execute on the user machine.

73. As per claim 23, Andersen teaches the invention as claimed, including the system of claim 22, wherein the resource at the second computer is an Active Server Page associated with a database (col. 3 line 50 – col. 4 line 16).

74. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Bloomfield, Bates, and Cordell with Andersen for reasons discussed above in reference to paragraph 72.

75. As per claim 34, Andersen teaches the invention as claimed, including the computer readable medium of claim 33, wherein the resource at the second computer is an Active Server Page (col. 3 line 50 – col. 4 line 16).

76. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Bloomfield, Bates, and Cordell with Andersen for reasons discussed above in reference to paragraph 72.

77. As per claim 44, Andersen teaches the invention as claimed, including the method of claim 43, wherein the resource at the second computer is an Active Server Page associated with a database (col. 3 line 50 – col. 4 line 16).

78. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Bloomfield, Bates, and Cordell with Andersen for reasons discussed above in reference to paragraph 72.

Response to Arguments

79. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-46 have been considered but are moot in view of the new grounds of rejection.

Conclusion

80. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Syed J Ali whose telephone number is (703) 305-8106. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8-5:30, 2nd Friday off.

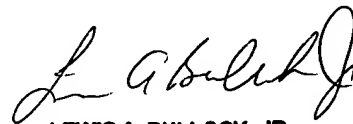
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Meng-Ai T An can be reached on (703) 305-9678. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Syed Ali
July 12, 2004



LEWIS A. BULLOCK, JR.
PRIMARY EXAMINER